1: Holmberg--16 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 411, 221

"Except in the case of an emergency or a shortage of material, arrow shafts (ékua) are always made of reed (Gynerium sagittatum). The plant is found in abundance along the banks of the rivers and at some points inland, but is only suitable for use in arrow making for about 2 months during the rainy season—in March and in April. Consequently, a whole year's supply of not less than 30 reeds is usually harvested during these months. If a man runs out of reeds before the next season comes around, a species of bamboo may be substituted, but this material is considered inferior since it makes an inaccurate arrow."

1: Holmberg--21-22 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221

"In contrast to most other aboriginal peoples of the area in which they live, the Siriono are seminomadic forest dwellers who live more by hunting, fishing, and gathering than they do by farming. All of their economic activities, or course, are governed to a considerable extent by the seasonal changes which take place throughout the year. During the periodic inundations which last from [22] December to May, when the whole area, except for small islands of high ground, becomes one huge swamp, the mobility of the group is considerably impaired. Consequently, at the beginning of this cycle a stretch of high ground containing an abundance of palm trees and wild fruits is selected for occupation during the flood months, and the wild fruits are harvested as they mature. Such hunting as is possible (considerable game is attracted by wild fruits) is done, but fishing becomes a negligible activity, since the waters become turbid. The diet at this season of the year consists principally of wild fruit and vegetable food, and the band is a fairly cohesive social unit."

1: Holmberg--22 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221

"In sharp contrast to the sedentary mode of life during the rainy season is its nomadic character during the dry season. After the crops have been harvested in April and May and after the waters have begun to recede in June, the entire band may start out on a hunting and gathering expedition, wandering from lake to lake, from stream to stream, exhausting the wild life of each as it travels. Consequently, meat, fish, and wild honey become more prominent in the diet at this season of the year, and the band becomes a loose social unit.

When the next rainy season arrives, the band may return to the same spot occupied the year before or it may move on to another. This depends largely on the quantity of food available. Having wandered for years over the same large area, the Siriono possess many sites containing old gardens, uruku trees, calabash trees, etc., to which they may return from time to time in their wanderings.

Table 1 is a calendar of the chief economic activities carried out and the principal foods eaten throughout the year."

1: Holmberg--22 [2]
116, 221, 262

(1941-42) 1950

Siriono

TABLE 1.—*Calendar of chief economic activities and principal foods eaten*

Month	Activities	Foods eaten
January	Hunting and collecting; little or no agricultural work; group usually sedentary because of the rainy season.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits.
February	Hunting and collecting; harvest of maize planted in November; harvest of wild fruits begins; group sedentary because of rainy season.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; papaya; maize; some manioc; coquino; aguaí; hindoera; gargatás; pacay; pacobillo.
March	Hunting and collecting; no agricultural work; principal harvest of wild fruits; group sedentary because of rainy season.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; papaya; maize; some manioc; coquino; aguaí; hindoera; gargatás; pacay.
April	Hunting and collecting; group still sedentary; harvest of wild fruits almost over; little or no agricultural work.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; papaya; coquino; aguaí; little maize and manioc.
May	Hunting and collecting; harvest of chuchío begins; making of new arrows; group begins to be more nomadic; possible replanting of maize.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; little manioc; maize and papaya.
June	Hunting and collecting; extended families become more nomadic; hunting expeditions; fishing begins; harvest of chuchío terminated; almost no agricultural work; band as a whole may decide to migrate to other spots for better hunting and fishing.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; little manioc; maize and papaya; some fish and wild honey.
July	Usually on the march; hunting and fishing; no agricultural work	Game and fish; palm cabbage; wild honey; motacú fruits; cusi nuts; some camotes.
August	Usually on the march; may return to eat camotes and fresh maize planted in May; hunting, fishing, and collecting chief economic activities; drinking parties occur because of abundance of wild honey.	Game and fish; palm cabbage; wild honey; camotes; maize; cusi nuts; motacú fruits; also a fruit called safia.
September	Usually on the march; hunting, fishing, and collecting; many drinking parties.	Game and fish; palm cabbage; wild bee honey; motacú fruits; camotes; little manioc or maize; turtle eggs.
October	Hunting and collecting; clearing small plots for planting; during this month the group usually selects a site to weather the rainy season.	Game; fish; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; some camotes; little manioc, maize, or papaya.
November	Hunting and collecting; most of the planting occurs in this month; maize, manioc, cotton, and tobacco are sown; since agricultural activities are limited, they interfere little with hunting and collecting; fishing stops because the waters begin to rise and become turbid.	Game; little fish; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; few other vegetable products.
December	Rainy season begins in full force; no agricultural work; hunting and collecting are the only important activities; wild fruits have not yet begun to ripen.	Game; palm cabbage; motacú fruits; few other vegetable products.

1: Holmberg--29 [4] (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221, 241

"Little attention is paid to the time of year in sowing, although more sowing is done at the beginning of the rainy season than during the dry season, probably because the group is less mobile during wet weather. However, I saw maize, manioc, papaya, and tobacco planted the year around. Camotes, on the other hand, I saw planted only during March and April, these being harvested in July and August. Once plants are sown little attention is paid to them until harvest."

1: Holmberg--42-43 (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221, 484

"While I was living with a band on the march for about 6 weeks during September and October 1941, while they were traveling from a camp site northeast of Yaguarú, Guarayos, to Tibaera on the Rio Blanco, it took them about a month to travel about a hundred miles. Movement of the entire band took place on the average of every 3 [43] days. There were nine camps between the starting point and the objective, which means that on days when movement took place approximately 10 miles were covered. It is difficult, however, to make any generalizations as to the amount of travel done by a band, since so much depends on the food supply in the area. Some camps may be abandoned within a few days' time, while others may be occupied for more than 6 months. I visited some 50 sites that had been variously occupied and abandoned during the past 20 years."

1: Holmberg--84 [3] (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221, 512

"The adult Siriono spends about half of his waking time wandering around the forest in search of game and food. About one-third of this is spent alone, one-third with fellow hunters, and one-third on expeditions with his family. On the average hunting day he covers approximately 15 miles. Unless he is accompanied by his wife or fellow hunters, he alone carries in the game that he bags. He spends little time in his gardens except at sowing and harvest. His working day consists largely in hunting, fishing, and gathering."

1: Holmberg--84 [4] (1941-42) 1950 Siriono
116, 221, 572

"The adult female, on the other hand, spends much more of her time in the house. When the band or family is not on the march, she devotes a large part of each day to cooking, eating, attending children, quarreling with her neighbors, spinning cotton thread, twining bark-fiber string, weaving mats or baskets, coiling pots or pipes, repairing hammocks, preparing feather ornaments, carrying water, bringing in firewood, or collecting motacú fruits and palm cabbage, which are found in abundance just outside of every hut. She seldom goes any distance into the forest alone or in company with other women. During the rainy season, however, she frequently makes excursions of a day or two with her husband to collect wild fruits, and during the dry season, she may be more or less continually on the march with the entire extended family in quest of food. Like her husband, she does little agricultural work, this being a relatively unimportant activity."